

Policy: The District shall offer a comprehensive educational program that leads to the achievement of the District Mission and Learning Principles and also meets or exceeds the learning and assessment requirements of State and Federal legislation. This program will be delivered in a manner that assures consistency and comparability of services within schools and across the District and is organized around the learning and developmental needs of all students. Our commitment is that all students will meet the academic expectations defined in this document.

District Mission: Students who graduate from the Milford Public Schools will demonstrate mastery of reading, writing, and numeracy. Students will comprehend, organize, and analyze information in order to independently solve problems and articulate solutions. Students will demonstrate the attributes of good citizenship

2.0 **General Learning Programs.** Learning programs will achieve the following learner goals:

2.0.1 **Business Education:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills in business or in other related areas and develop job entry skills for those who plan careers in business upon graduation.

2.0.2 **Family and Consumer Sciences:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills in consumer economics, fabric and food technologies, human growth and relationships, and careers, which will enable them to become more capable individuals and strengthen their roles, responsibilities, and interactions in their family, the workplace, and community.

2.0.3 **Health:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills that will enable them to lead healthy lives; gaining practical information necessary to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle, to prevent injury, disease and substance abuse in the context of understanding personal growth and development.

2.0.4 **Mathematics:** Students will acquire an understanding of the concepts of mathematics, skills to compute accurately, expanded thinking and synthesis problem solving, and the ability to combine the understanding of concepts and computational skills to solve real world problems.

- 2.0.5 **Media Services:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills to support their regular and special learning programs and to enhance their abilities to selectively acquire and apply information through the use of educational media, including technology, and media centers.
- 2.0.6 **Music:** Students will acquire music skills, knowledge and understanding of music concepts through active engagement in *The Three Artistic Processes* (Perform, Create, Respond), and will become lifetime learners in music not only as responders (informed audience members, critical consumers), but also as performers (singers and instrumentalists) and creators (improvisers, composers).
- 2.0.7 **Physical Education:** Students will acquire physical skills in sports and recreational activities; demonstrate attributes of good sportsmanship; and, develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they need to adopt and maintain a physically active lifestyle.
- 2.0.8 **Reading and Language Arts:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills in reading, writing, listening and public speaking to enable them to use language correctly and proficiently and to become effective writers and critical and appreciative readers.
- 2.0.9 **Science:** Students will acquire the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary to apply the scientific method of inquiry to an understanding of living organisms, of the physical world and of their relationships.
- 2.0.10 **Social Studies:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills to make informed decisions as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world through the integrated study of U.S and world history, economics, geography, global perspectives, and civic practices. Students will think critically, use inquiry problem solving skills and make informed decisions from a global perspective.
- 2.0.11 **Technology:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills for an understanding and appreciation of our industrial-technological society; develop consumer knowledge, vocational interests and skill; develop skills and attitudes applicable to the world of work; and the skill to transfer technology skills to real world problem solving.

Understanding and Applications: Discipline-Based and Interdisciplinary Skills

Proposed: September 9, 2003

Adopted: October 14, 2003

1st Revision: April 7, 2008

Monitoring Method: Internal

Monitoring Frequency: Annual: September

- 2.0.12 **Visual Arts:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills necessary to experience the joy of creating art and gain an understanding and appreciation of art as a visual language that will continue through a lifetime of learning.
- 2.0.13 **World Languages:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing skills which allow them to communicate in languages other than English and to appreciate and understand other cultures.
- 2.0.14 **Student Activities:** Students will achieve personal growth and gain organizational experience and leadership skills in a wide range of co-curricular activities, including student government, student publications, and school and community service. Performance and presentation opportunities will be provided in art, dance, theater, and music.
- 2.0.15 **Student Athletics:** Students will acquire knowledge, skills, commitment, and responsible personal and social behaviors (e.g. good sportsmanship) necessary for participation in sports and activities on a continuum from casual involvement to the pursuit of physical fitness (intramural sports) to more advanced competition (interscholastic sports).
- 2.1 **Pupil Personnel Service Programs**
 - 2.1.1 **Guidance:** Students will acquire knowledge and skills to attain personal and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on school program planning; college and career counseling; transition planning; individual and group counseling; and group guidance services addressing the needs of adolescents.
 - 2.1.2 **Occupational and Physical Therapy:** Students with disabilities will acquire the physical skills needed to access their educational programs by offering a variety of services with a major focus on individual and group physical and occupational therapy; consultation with classroom staff and parents; increased independence in school functioning and participation along with mobility; and when required, intensive supports in the identification and implementation of assistive technology supports.

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- 2.1.3 **Psychological Services:** Students, particularly those with disabilities will acquire knowledge and skills to attain emotional, intellectual and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on individualized intellectual and behavioral evaluations; individual and group counseling; consultation with private therapists; and the development and implementation of positive behavior support plans.
- 2.1.4 **School Social Work:** Students, particularly those with disabilities will acquire knowledge and skills to attain emotional, social and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on connecting families with community services; individual and group counseling; and social skill development.
- 2.1.5 **Special Education:** Students, particularly those with disabilities will acquire the skills to access the same body of knowledge presented in the regular education environment to the extent possible through modification and adaptation of the curriculum, instructional methodology, and materials. The District will offer a comprehensive continuum of special education placements to meet students' needs offered through the least restrictive environment and using the Response to Intervention initiative.
- 2.1.6 **Speech and Language:** Students, particularly those with hearing, speech and language disabilities, will acquire the skills to attain communicative, intellectual and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on individual and group speech and language therapy; consultation with classroom staff and parents; and intensive supports in the use of augmentative communication systems.
- 2.1.7 **Student Health Services:** Students will be provided school-based monitoring of required health and immunization assessments, emergency care and promotion of healthy environments and behaviors, provided health care referrals and communicate with outside therapists and medical staff.
- 2.1.8 **Life and Work Skills:** Students will be life long learners, able to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve productive, healthy and balanced lives. Students will display critical thinking skills, set, plan and achieve goals, effectively manage time, money and other resources, communicate effectively, adapt to change, make informed choices and take personal responsibility for their actions, address conflicts in a productive and civil manner, value and practice teamwork, demonstrate the ability to overcome barriers, appreciate the arts, understand and practice wellness, be leaders and self-empowered citizens.